

PROPOSED SUPPRESSION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF
THREE SPECIES NAMES OF BRACHIOPOD ERECTED BY LINNAEUS
(1758). Z.N.(S.) 1810

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Purpose of the present application

This application proposes to place on the Official Index of Rejected Specific names the species *Anomia striatula* Linnaeus, 1758, *Anomia lacunosa* Linnaeus, 1758, and *Anomia hysterita* Linnaeus, 1758, as they are no longer in common use and because they would be senior synonyms of very well known species.

History

2. This application arises from a review of all the brachiopod specimens in the Linnaean Collection (Brunton, Cocks and Dance 1967), and the illustration, in many cases for the first time, of the types of Linnaeus' brachiopod species. Each of the species we propose for rejection will now be dealt with in turn.

(i) *Anomia striatula*

3. Linnaeus erected this species in 1758 (page 702, number 194) without illustration and with the following brief diagnosis "A. testa subrotundo-dilatata utrinque gibba striata, valvis aequalibus. *Habitat* . . . *fossilis*. *Testa* *rotundata, sed duplo latior quam longa, postice gibbosiore, antice margine tenuit*." This diagnosis was repeated without change in the 12th edition apart from the last word "tenuit." Other than Hanley (1855), who isolated a single specimen from the Linnaean collection "with doubt" as the representative of this species, no-one to our knowledge has quoted the species since its original erection. The specimen thus labelled in the Linnaean collection is a Carboniferous enteletacean, undoubtedly attributable to the species *Conchylolithus* (*Anomites*) *resupinatus* Martin, 1809, plate 49, figs 13 and 14, the type-species of the genus *Schizophoria* King, 1850 : 106, in itself the nominal genus for the sub-family SCHIZOPHORIINAE Schuchert and Levene, 1929. *Schizophoria resupinata* is a very well-known species and extensively quoted in the literature. In fact, owing to dispute over the validity of Martin's original work, the species *resupinatus* is already on the Official List of Specific Names, name no. 734, as a result of Opinion 419 of the Commission (1956). Thus to revive *A. striatula* would reverse this Opinion, and would in any case serve no useful purpose.

(ii) *Anomia lacunosa*

4. Linnaeus (1758 : 702) erected the species as follows: "A. testa subrotunda multisulcata: valvulis apice plicatis; altera brevior lacunosa, apice quadridentata. *Mus. Tessin* . . . *t.5.f.6. List. angl. 249.t.9.f.57. Grew. mus.t. 19.f.6. Habitat* . . . *fossilis*." He repeated this without change in 1767. In fact the species was used by three Swedish authors in the early nineteenth century Wahlenberg (1821 : 67), Dalman (1828 : 139, plate 4, fig. 1) and Hisinger (1837 : 80, plate 23, fig. 3) and Dalman illustrated material in all respects similar to the specimens today preserved in the Linnaean collection labelled as *A.*

lacunosa. These are, however, not similar to the three figures quoted by Linnaeus in his original description, which, although they may be ascribed generally to the order Rhynchonellida, are other genera than Linnaeus's specimens or Dalman's figures. Meanwhile, after Linnaeus's description, but before the three Swedish authors, J. Sowerby (1816: 38, plate 118, fig. 3) had erected the species *Terebratula wilsoni*, from the Upper Silurian, since made the type-species of the genera *Wilsonia* Kayser, 1871 (*non* Ridgway 1823), *Wilsonella* Nikiforova, 1937 (*non* Carter 1885) and *Sphaerirhynchia* Cooper & Muir-Wood, 1951, in turn. There is no doubt that *A. lacunosa* and *S. wilsoni* are conspecific as the species is readily distinguishable from other rhynchonellids of the same age even though the types of the former come from Gotland and the latter from Britain.

5. Sowerby's name has been used for the species in question ever since the publication and popularity of "The Silurian System" (Murchison 1839) and *A. lacunosa* has not been used since the middle of the last century. In fact the last mention of *A. lacunosa* which we can find is by Lindström (1860: 366), who, in describing the Gotland fauna, actually put "*Ter. lacunosa* WAHLENB." [sic] as a synonym of *wilsoni*.

6. Thus we propose that *Anomia lacunosa* should be put on the Index of rejected names, not merely because of its long lack of use, but because *S. wilsoni* is so widely known, not only amongst palaeontologists, but amongst stratigraphers as well. For example the *Wilsonia* Shales (Ludlow) of Breconshire and the *Wilsonia wilsoni* Grits (Ludlow) of Montgomeryshire are both named after the species in question.

(iii) *Anomia hysterita*

7. Linnaeus erected this species in 1758 (page 703, number 203) giving the following diagnosis: "A testa dilatata laevi convexa striata subtriloba, antice depressa, margine acuto. *Mus. Tess.* 90.t.5.f.1,2,2. *Column purp.* 22.f.3? *Trilobos.* *Wolff. hass.* 29.t.3.f.3,4,5. *Worm.mus.* t.83. *Habitat . . . fossilis.*" No descriptive change was made in the twelfth edition of 1767.

8. Baumer, in 1763, figured a specimen called *hysterita* which depicted the internal mould of a *Schizophoria*-like brachiopod comparable to the single *Anomia hysterita* specimen now in the Linnaean Collection (See Brunton, Cocks and Dance, 1967: 164).

9. From the figures quoted by Linnaeus in 1758 it is clear that his interpretation of *Anomia hysterita* was very broad, and the name was possibly given to any specimen preserved as an internal mould. Hanley (1855) curated three specimens under this name, but he recognised that two distinct species were involved; two specimens being internal moulds of spiriferaceans and the third being the *Schizophoria* species to which we believe Linnaeus first attached the name *hysterita*, and which has been selected as lectotype.

10. Probably because of its confused introduction to the literature the name *Anomia hysterita* has seldom been used and the only record of its use this century that we can find is in a general paper by Schmidt (1935: 27). In this paper the name "*Schizophoria hysterita*" is given as caption only to an illustration of an enteletacean brachiopod like that illustrated by Baumer.

11. Schlotheim erected the species *Hysterolithes vulvarius* in 1820 (:247) for a Devonian *Schizophoria*. Two of Schlotheim's original specimens remain in the Humboldt-University of Berlin, one of which retains the original Schlotheim label bearing the specific name. A study of these specimens convinces us that they can be regarded as conspecific with the specimen called *A. hysterita* in the Linnaean Collection.

12. In Central Europe *Schizophoria vulvaria* (Schlotheim) is a well known species from the Lower Devonian and the name is entrenched within the literature. To insist that the species *A. hysterita* in the Linnaean Collection was certainly the specimen held by Linnaeus and that it was, therefore, senior synonym of *S. vulvaria* (Schlotheim 1820) would cause considerable confusion if the Law of Priority were strictly applied.

13. Thus, we propose that the name *Anomia hysterita* be put onto the Index of Rejected Names, both because of its long lack of usage and in order to maintain the validity of the well known name *vulvaria* in the interests of stability.

Proposals

14. We request the International Commission:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the following specific names for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy:
 - (a) *striatula* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Anomia striatula*;
 - (b) *lacunosa* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Anomia lacunosa*;
 - (c) *hysterita* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Anomia hysterita*;
- (2) to place the three specific names suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) above on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology;
- (3) to place the following specific names on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology:
 - (a) *wilsoni* J. Sowerby, 1816, as published in the binomen *Terebratulula wilsoni*;
 - (b) *vulvarius* Schlotheim, 1820, as published in the binomen *Hysterolithes vulvarius*.

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